

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: UEMURA =8

In re Application of:) Art Unit: 1652
Hidetoshi UEMURA et al) Examiner: D. Steadman
Appln. No.: 09/856,050) Washington, D.C.
Date Filed: May 17, 2001) Confirmation No. 4088
For: PROTEIN EXPRESSION VECTOR) August 20, 2003
AND UTILIZATION...

#12
M.J
9/17/03

REPLY TO SECOND RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AUG 22 2003

Sir:

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Replying to the Office Action mailed August 12, 2003, a second restriction requirement in this application, applicants again respectfully and provisionally elect Group I, now identified as claims 1-18, 20, 25 and 27, without prejudice and without traverse. Thus, applicants accept that the groups are patentably distinct from one another, i.e. each is *prima facie* nonobvious from the other.

Acknowledgement by the PTO of the receipt of applicants' papers filed under §119 is noted.

Applicants respectfully await the results of a first examination on the merits of the Group I claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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